

**Art and Architectural Review Board
Minutes**

May 4, 2018

The Branch Museum

2501 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA 23220

1.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 10:00am 1.1 **CALL TO ORDER**
Sandy Bond, Calder Loth, Bob Mills, Burt Pinnock, Donna Tuten, Helen Wilson
- 1.2 **PUBLIC COMMENT**
AARB Meetings are open for public comment. Rules for public comment can be obtained from the Director, Division of Engineering and Buildings.
- 1.3 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Motion: Mr. Bond
Second: Ms. Tuten
Recommend Approval of Minutes from April 6, 2018 meeting
- 1.4 **OTHER BUSINESS**

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 10:10am 2.1 **Southside Virginia Community College – Removal of Mobile Units**
- 2.2 **DOC – Demolition – Storage Building**
- 2.3 **Va Tech – Biomedical Research Expansion**
Previously presented to the board on November 1, 2017 with the following comments:
Final approval. Agency to submit photographic representation and specification of proposed building materials and final landscape plan for consent agenda review.
Agency response to Board comments.
Please see the accompanying documents for photographic representation and specification of proposed building materials and final landscape plan.
- 2.4 **Va Tech – Mail Services Intelligent Lockers**
The project is designed to use the same character as the bus stops on campus, but customized to hold the intelligent lockers. A nine foot deep by twenty-four foot wide by ten foot tall steel surface mount shelter from RCLF Site Furnishings provides the required cover for the lockers and associated equipment. The proposed finishes are Mineral Bronze for the steel with a curved smoked acrylic roof and clear acrylic side panels with two openings on the front side.

2.5 University of Mary Washington – Willard Hall Renovation

Previously presented to the board on March 2, 2018 with the following comments:

Consider a more natural area for the hammock zone and away for the immediate front of the building. Consider adding more formal exterior seat that's more symmetrical with the building.

Conceptual Approval. Agency to submit further developed architectural drawings, including landscape plans for final review and approval.

Agency response to board comments:

We have deleted the hammocking zone away from the immediate vicinity of the building and added more formal exterior seating that is more symmetrical to the building. Architectural and landscape plans are included with this submission. The architectural plans illustrate detailed paving patterns and the treatment of the ground plane.

2.6 DGIF – Lake Frederick Concession Building

The primary use of the structure is a concession stand and restrooms for the purposes of promoting fishing at Lake Frederick. The proposed structure is a one-story 24'X23' building with an A-frame roof with a veranda roof that is extended around the building for constituent use and cover from the weather. The buildings earth tones and horizontal "weathered" siding promotes of the agency mission of Connecting to the Outdoors along with Conserving and Protecting the Natural Environment. This building is designed to blend with its natural surroundings with an unobtrusive form (minimal height and footprint) and colors that are commensurate with the surrounding landscape.

2.7 Department of General Services – War Memorial Carillon Maintenance Repairs – Accessibility Ramp

War Memorial Carillon's current access path and ramp do not meet code requirements. Therefore, the project is comprised of the demolition of the existing entrance ramp and paved walking path and the construction of a new ADA compliant ramp and paved walking path to improve accessibility. The new entrance materials and design will be visually compatible with existing architectural features. The project encompasses 1930 sf. New accessible compliant ramp to match existing aesthetic with new paint color. New pavers to match existing brick on site.

2.8 JMU – Campus Gateway Signage

The 3 proposed campus entry signs will create a clear hierarchy and consistency while allowing for a limited variation in form and materials that reflect the district and area of campus which they are located. The new gateway signs will be clad in a combination of materials including bluestone (paying tribute to the Universities' iconic-historic Bluestone Campus district),

precast accents, brick and aluminum lettering. The brick is used on 2 of the signs located on the East campus where buff color brick is the defining architectural building façade material. Additionally, at the primary entry gates, a planter element helps visually anchor the signage composition and creates a welcoming gesture to campus visitors. There are a variety of existing gateways signage forms and materials for each of the campus entry areas which do not adequately identify the areas for wayfinding or orientation. The proposed signage design uses a simple, but representative palette of materials and forms which create a consistent entry signage image and language that unifies all the campus districts.

Motion: Mr. Bond

Second: Ms. Tuten

Approval of consent items 2.1 through 2.8. Subject to DHR approval if required.

3.0 PROJECT REVIEWS

3.1 College of William & Mary – Landscape Plan, Alumni House Expansion Previously presented to the board on August , 2017 with the following comments:

Consider emphasizing the cross walk connections between Alumni House and stadium entry points. Consider simplifying connection between drop off and Bright House entry for better flow.

Final approval as submitted. Agency to submit landscape plan for consent agenda review.

Agency response to Board comments:

The existing crosswalk, located at the northwest corner of the parking lot, crosses Alumni Drive and is intended to be the main pedestrian access point from the site into the John H. Randolph stadium gate. In addition, on game days, Alumni Drive is blocked for tailgating activities and the entire width of Alumni Drive becomes a pedestrian zone. The conversion of the drive into a pedestrian zone provides two additional access points to the stadium gates as one walks towards Richmond Road. Because of this practice, the Alumni Association asked us to remove the sidewalk on the site that was previously shown as a connection to the stadium. This was done to put emphasis on one connection area instead of three connection areas during normal daily use. The connection at the Entry Circle drop off was converted to a 30-foot flush curb to provide easier access to the Entrance Terrace. Bollards are provided for pedestrian safety. There is a small staircase to the existing Bright House stoop from the drop off to accommodate the grade change. In addition, an ADA curb cut was provided at the Family Courtyard site to provide accessible access to the garden area. Please refer to the Family Courtyard presentation for the new garden concept presentation. The final landscape plans have been submitted for the Board's review.

Comments: Consider simplifying the landscaping – too many layers of plantings. Consider moving the flushed curve. Revised drawings to be submitted to DHR for review and approval.

Motion: Mr. Mills

Second: Mr. Bond

Approved as submitted.

3.2

College of William & Mary – Family Courtyard, Alumni House Expansion

Previously presented to the board on August 4, 2017 (Site Plan only with place holder Family Courtyard) with the following comments:

At the time of the initial presentation, the board asked the landscape architect to present any changes to the Family Courtyard once the concept had been further developed.

Agency response to Board comments:

The submitted presentation is the final approved concept from the Alumni Association. This is the first time the board will see this updated concept.

Comments: “Double Circle” for gathering is too complicated/busy for the site relative to adjacent, circular dropoff. The “Double Circle” seems out of place.

Consider a more linear form for this courtyard gathering area. Courtyard needs to be better integrated with the other things going on with the site and the form of the structure.

Board did not vote. Agency to return with response to comments and a further development of the concept and the site plan.

3.3

VIMS – Eastern Shore Laboratory Education, Administration and Research Complex

The campus design connects the town to the seaside by transitioning the residential scale on the west of the campus to the industrial scale to the east.

The VIMS mission on the Eastern Shore is for in-field research, requiring that the campus be located close to the water. The campus design embeds these functional requirements in the new Aquaculture building through floodproof design, and in the remaining structures by elevating the finish floor elevations above the floodplain on piers. Consistent eave heights, pitched roofs, and decking all speak to the coastal vernacular and functional requirements.

Two existing structures on campus, Seaside Hall and the Eastern Shore Seawater Laboratory are the most significant precedents for the project, both previously completed by VIA design architects. The campus will continue using the same formal language established with these buildings, using similar materials, color palette, and proportion. As mentioned previously, the context of the town of Wachapreague figures significantly into the design – All buildings are single story, and volumes are broken into smaller sections through the use of alternating roof pitches. A consistent eave height across campus also ties the structure to other buildings in the neighborhood.

Comments: Consider adding more “tidewater” vernacular details such as decorative rafter tails. Consider a flat roofed trellis on administration center building rather than pitched as shown to simplify overall form.

Motion: Ms. Tuten

Second: Mr. Bond
Final approval as submitted.

3.4 ODU – New Chemistry Building (Laboratory Science Building Phase II)
Previously presented to the board on January 5, 2018 with the following comments:

Consider reducing the prominence of the mechanical screening by lifting up glass element at joint. Also consider reducing the amount of mechanical screen used and exposing some mechanical equipment. Use the mechanical equipment to express the use of the building for chemistry studies. Consider using native grasses in landscape design. Examine the possibility of expanding the role of the large paved area beyond the fire truck turnaround - consider student seating/gathering and other student uses. Consider further expression of details on planetarium walls for greater impact.

Agency response to Board comments:

The mechanical screen wall has been reduced in height by 24", reducing the visual impact. The design team feels keeping the glass joint as designed works best with the overall massing. The continuous screen wall is used to link the two brick masses together. The lab exhaust fans have been moved to the north and south ends and are more readily visible from the south and east side of the building, thereby putting the function of the building on display. Exhaust fans are still very visible from the west side. Native plantings are used where available. All plantings have been reviewed and approved with the university arborist. The truck turn around has been studied and attempts have been made to give some space back to plantings or other functional uses. However the combination of fire truck turning radius, service vehicle access to this and existing buildings, has necessitated keeping a large open area. The paving pattern has been adjusted to make clear pedestrian zones. The planetarium wall has been studied in detail and adjusted so that brick corbeling and reveals will have maximum shade and shadow.

Comments: Consider tucking roof mechanical screen wall behind roof stacks or consider removing the screen wall entirely in order to express the scientific-nature of the building.

Motion: Mr. Pinnock

Second: Ms. Wilson

Final approval as submitted.

3.5 VCU – Construct STEM Class Lab Building

The project is proposed to be 7 stories above grade, including an enclosed mechanical penthouse, and 173,000 gross square feet in total floor area. The building will utilize flat roofs and exterior façade materials that are compatible with the character of the adjacent site context. The project will include brick masonry, cast stone and metal trim, aluminum framed windows and local areas of curtainwall, louvers and metal panels. The STEM building will be a stand-alone project, physically adjacent to high-rise Johnson Hall. The building mass steps down to the Northwest (away from Johnson Hall) to provide

transition from the high-rise buildings adjacent to Monroe Park to the smaller scale buildings further away from Monroe Park along Franklin Street. The site plan includes a landscaped walkway between the STEM building and the Ritter-Hickok House, providing direct pedestrian passage between Franklin Street and the Shafer Court Dining Center. Streetscape and landscape will enhance the pedestrian experience and reinforce the existing tree-lined character of Franklin Street.

Comments: Consider overall scale of the building and alignment of building with adjacent dorm building (Johnson Hall) to east. New building should split the difference between historic building to west and dorm to east, stepping up to the street rather than pressing the street. Remove any direct attachment to Johnson Hall. If square footage is lost by better siting of the building, additional square footage could be considered by adding to height adjacent to the taller Johnson Hall. Consider adding sunscreening on southwest side façade of building. Reconsider triangular shaped planting bed elements in landscape design. Board recommends further study of architectural "porch" elements shown on north and west facades and to consider more façade articulation on side street. Consider the impact of shade on streets created by the height, scale and mass of this building.

Motion: Mr. Mills

Second: Ms. Wilson

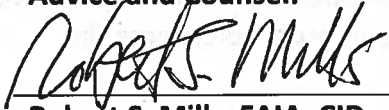
Conceptual approval as submitted.

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Next AARB Meeting is Friday, June 1, 2018.**

5.0 MEETING ADJOURNED

**Minutes Approved as AARB
Advice and Counsel:**



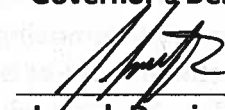
**Robert S. Mills, FAIA, CID
Chairman**

Art and Architectural Review Board

6/1/18

Date

**Approved as the
Governor's Designee:**



**Joseph Damico
Director**

Department of General Services

6/8/18

Date